

Corrie ten Boom's

The

HIDING PLACE

SPIRE
CHRISTIAN
COMICS

39¢

BETSIE, HOW
CAN WE GO
ON---

---TURNING
THE OTHER
CHEEK?

WE
MUST,
CORRIE!

WE MUST SHOW
THEM **LOVE** IS
STRONGER THAN
HATE!



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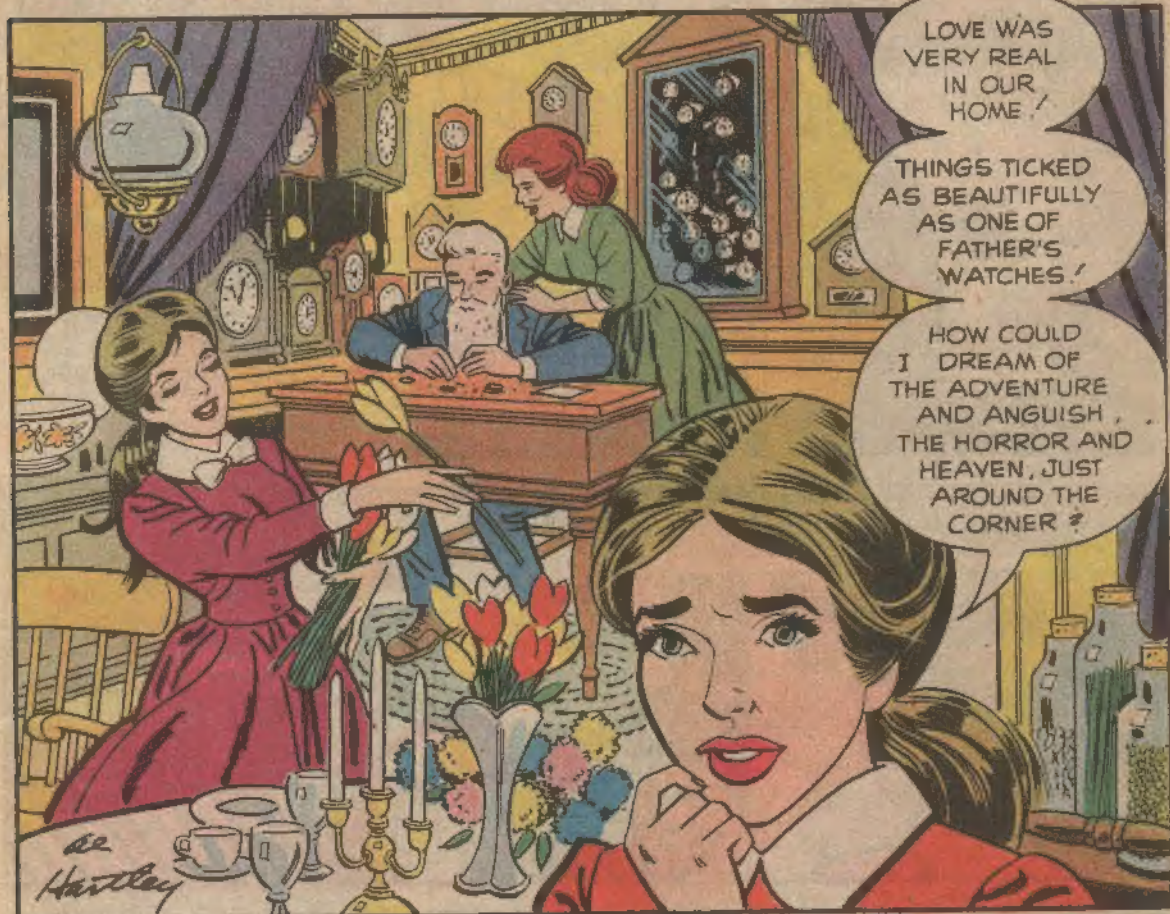
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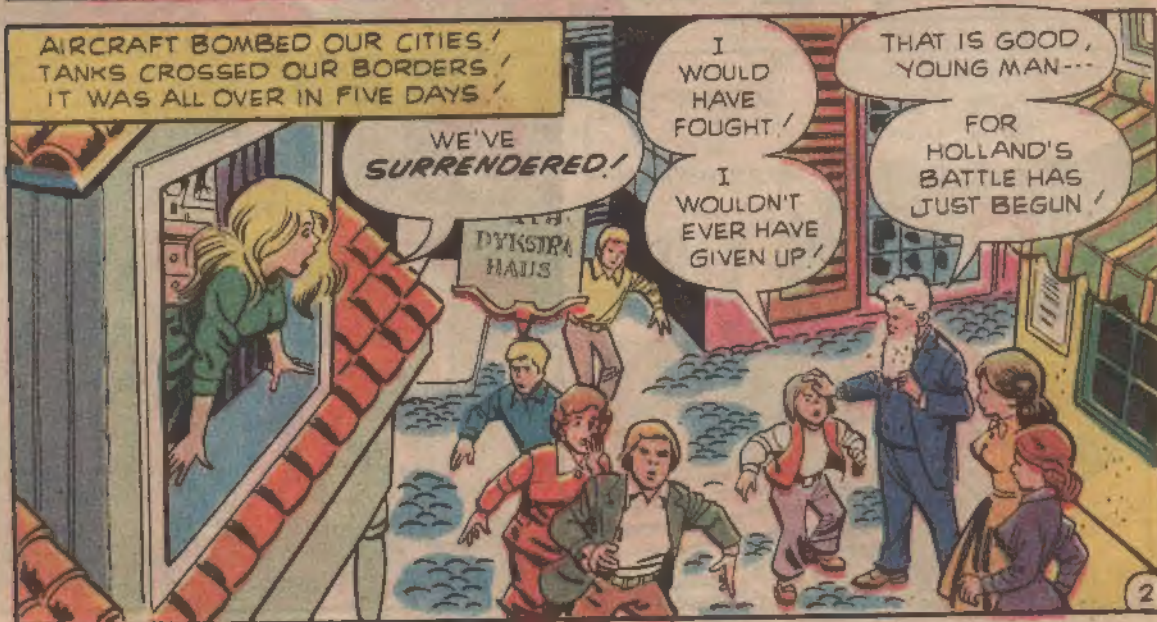
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The HIDING PLACE



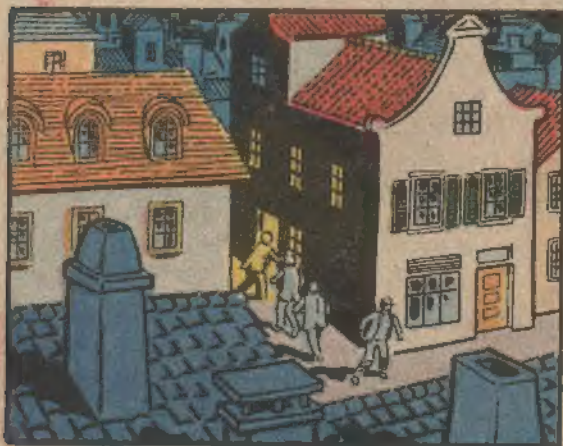


AS FATHER READ FROM THE BIBLE, GOD SEALED THE WORDS TO MY HEART! FOR HE ALONE COULD SEE THE FUTURE!





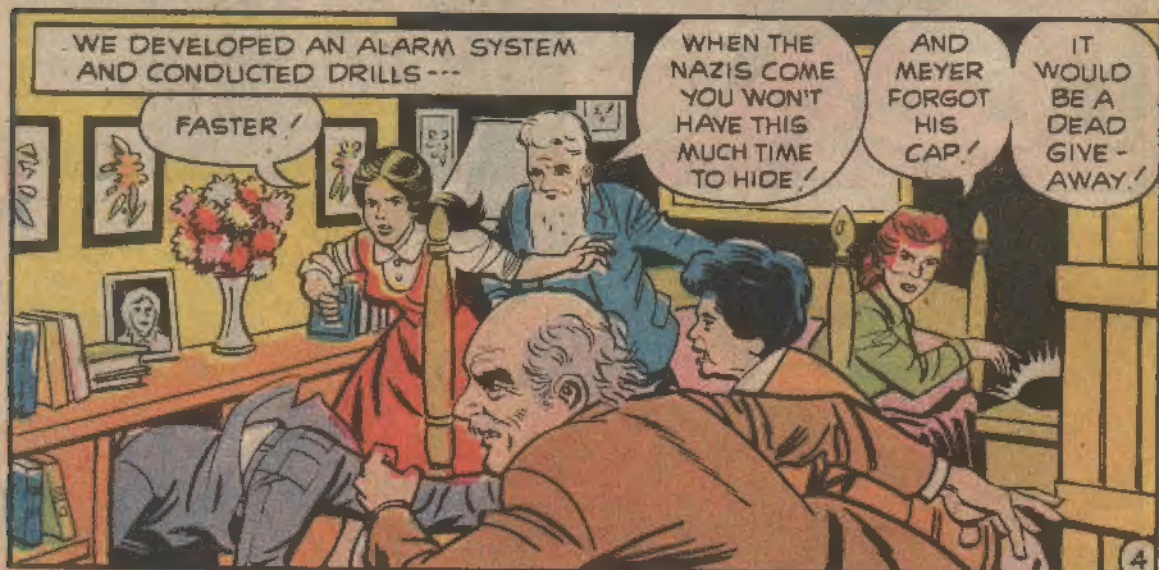
SOON OUR TINY HOME WAS A HUB OF UNDERGROUND ACTIVITY! WE WERE HIDING A CONSTANT STREAM OF HUNTED PEOPLE!



FOOD RATIONING PRESENTED REAL PROBLEMS---



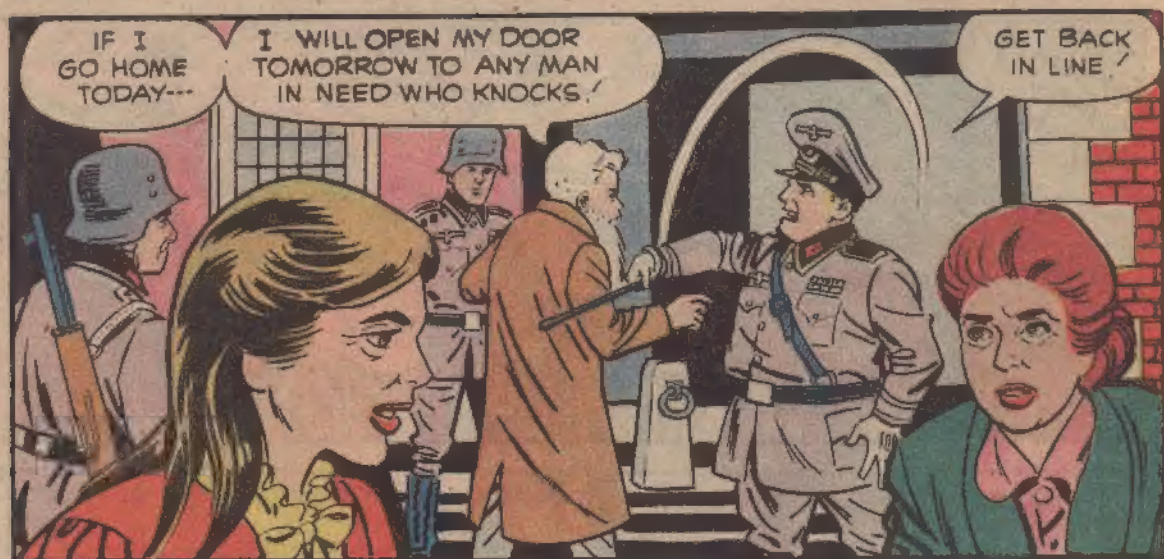
THE GESTAPO WAS NOW SEARCHING ALL HOMES FOR JEWS--- SO WE BUILT A SECRET ROOM!



LATE
ONE
NIGHT
I
HEARD
OUR
JEWISH
FRIENDS
RUSHING
INTO THE
SECRET
ROOM!

BUT THIS
TIME IT
WASN'T
A DRILL!





WE WERE SEPARATED.
I WAS ALONE IN A
FILTHY, SOUR CELL!



COULD THIS BE PART OF
THE PATTERN FIRST
REVEALED IN THE GOSPELS?



BUT WHAT KIND OF
VICTORY CAN
COME FROM A PLACE
LIKE THIS?



AND
WHAT
ABOUT
THOSE
OUTSIDE
?

THOSE
POOR PEOPLE
TRAPPED IN
THE SECRET
ROOM?



WEEKS PASSED---
AND THEN---

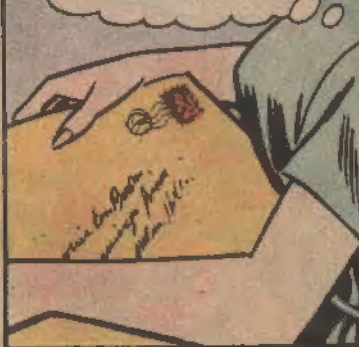


A PACKAGE FROM MY
SISTER NOLLIE WHO HAD
ESCAPED THE RAID ON
OUR HOME!

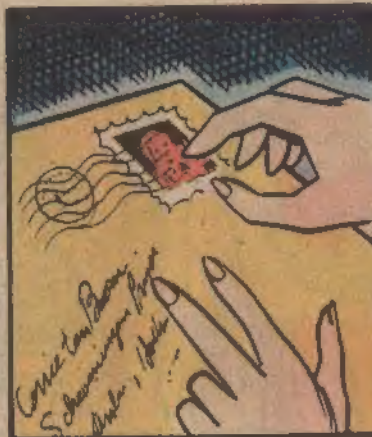


NOLLIE KNEW THE
PACKAGE WOULD
BE SEARCHED!

SHE'S
POINTING TO
THE STAMP!



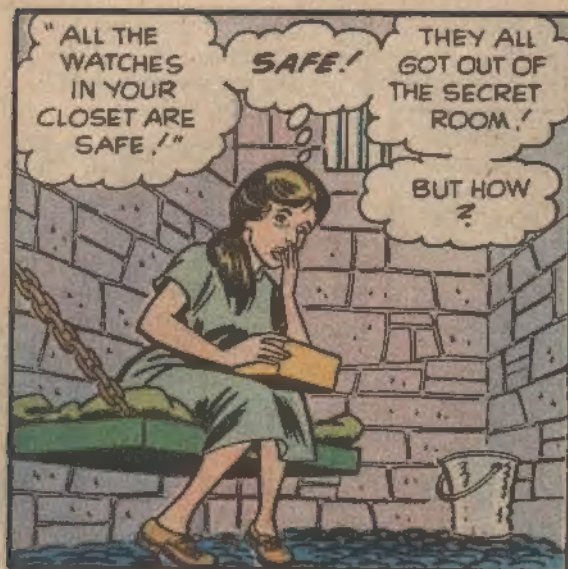
I MOISTENED THE
PAPER AND GINGERLY
WORKED THE STAMP
FREE!



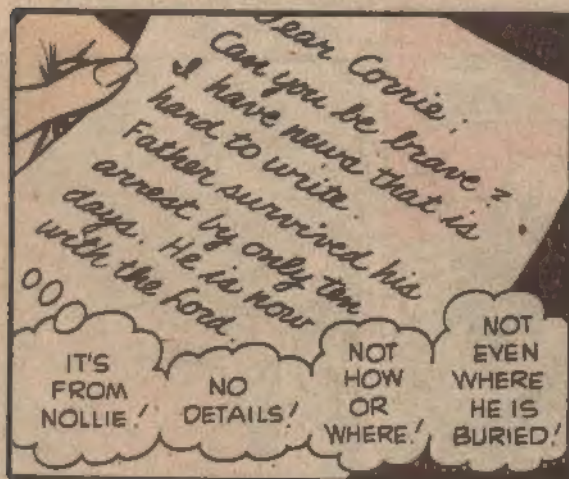
SURE
ENOUGH!

THERE'S A
MESSAGE
UNDER THE
STAMP!



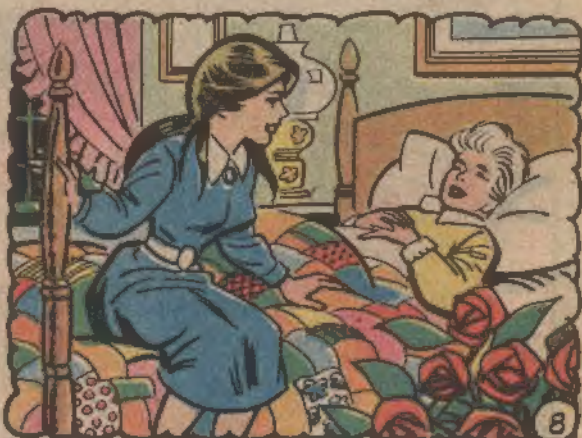


MORE WEEKS PASSED AND THEN A LETTER ARRIVED---

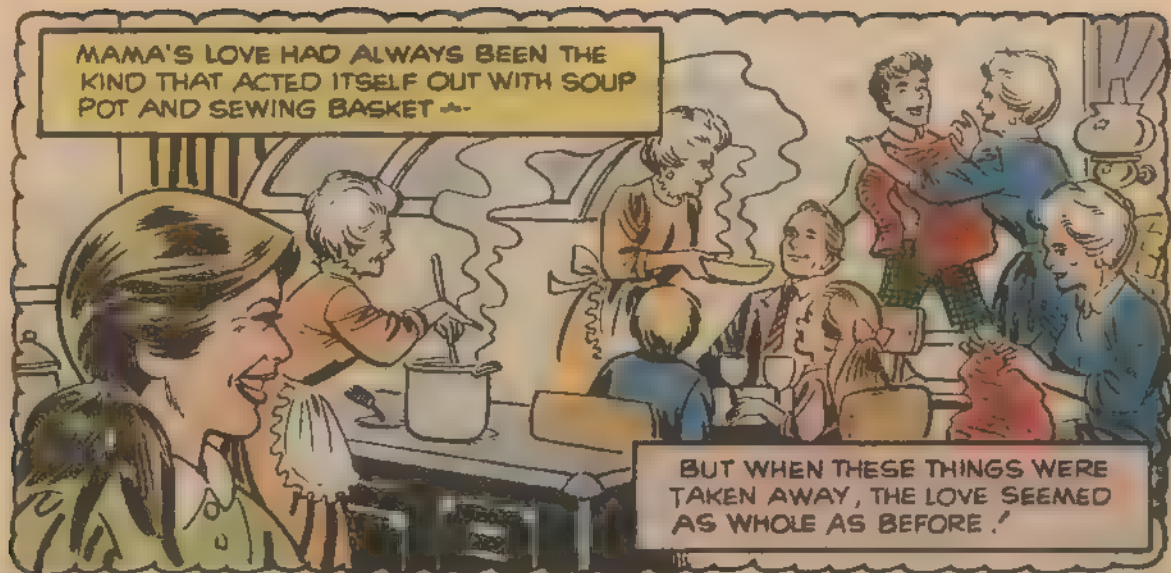


I THOUGHT OF DEAR FATHER WHO DID THE FINEST WATCH REPAIRS IN HOLLAND --- AND THEN FORGOT TO SEND THE BILL!

AND I DREW STRENGTH FROM MY MEMORIES OF MAMA! IN THE END, HER SICK BODY BECAME A PRISON, BUT HER SPIRIT SOARED FREE!



MAMA'S LOVE HAD ALWAYS BEEN THE
KIND THAT ACTED ITSELF OUT WITH SOUP
POT AND SEWING BASKET --



BUT WHEN THESE THINGS WERE
TAKEN AWAY, THE LOVE SEEMED
AS WHOLE AS BEFORE. '

SHE SAT AT HER CHAIR
BY THE WINDOW AND
LOVED US. '

SHE LOVED THE PEOPLE
SHE SAW IN THE STREET ---
AND BEYOND. '

HER LOVE TOOK IN THE
CITY OF HAARLEM. THE
LAND OF HOLLAND, THE
WORLD. '



AND SO I LEARNED THAT LOVE IS
LARGER THAN THE WALLS THAT
SHUT IT IN. '

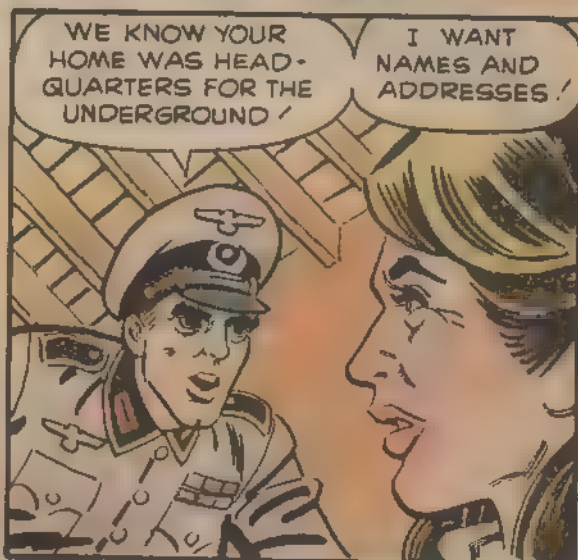
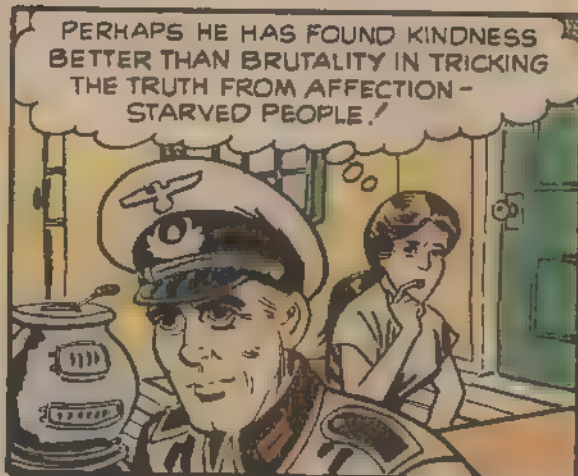
AND THEN REALITY REPLACED
MEMORIES. ' I FOLLOWED A GUARD
THROUGH A LABYRINTH OF
CORRIDORS ---



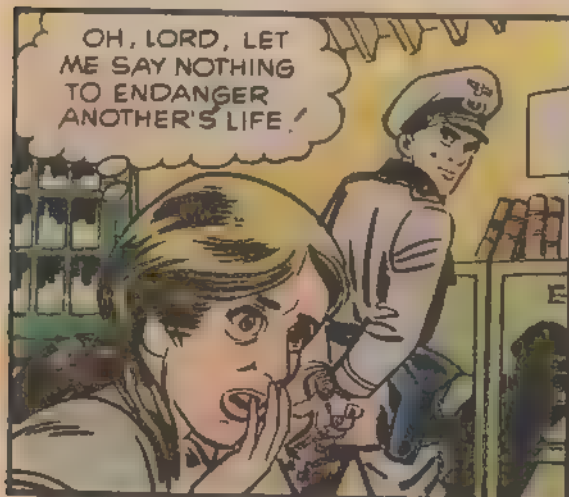
AFTER THREE MONTHS IN PRISON,
MY INTERROGATION BEGAN---



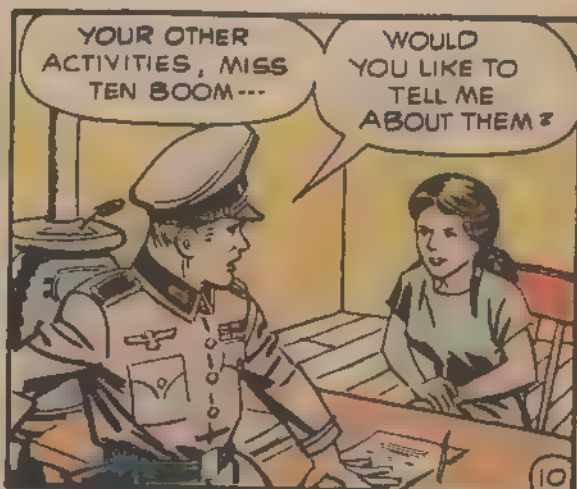
HE SEEMED LIKE A KINDLY GERMAN
HOUSEHOLDER ENTERTAINING A
GUEST---



HE QUESTIONED ME FOR OVER
AN HOUR---

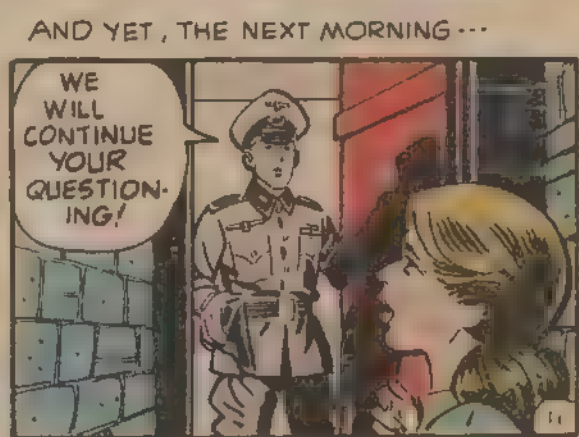
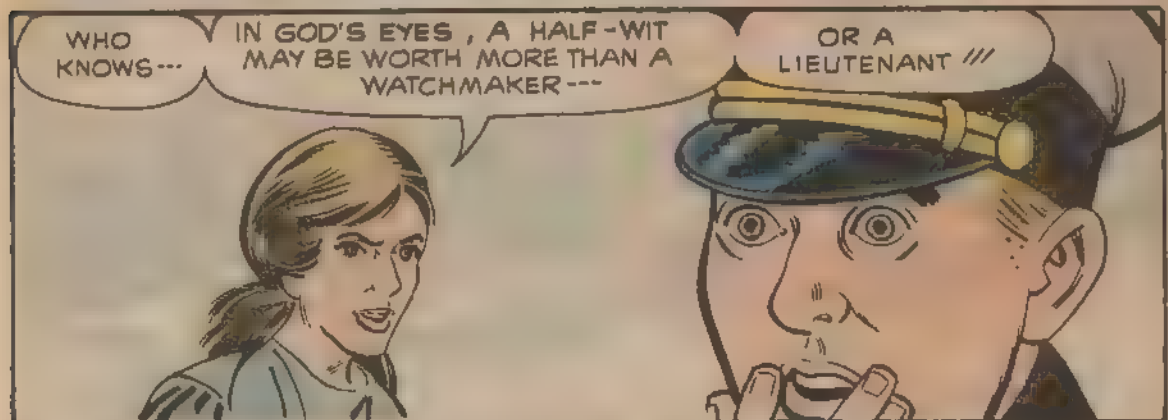
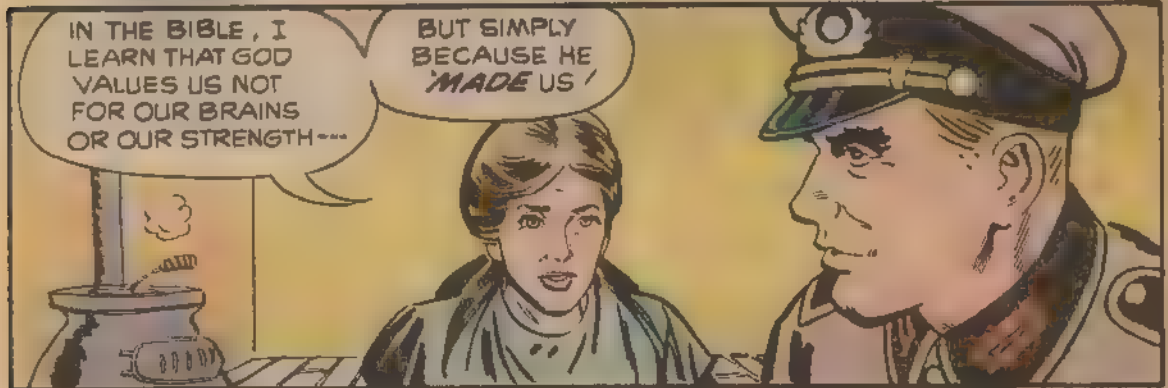
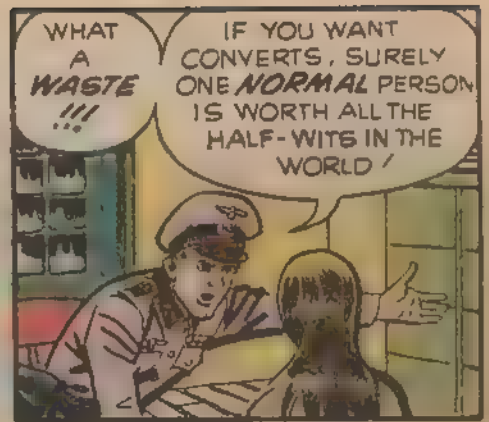


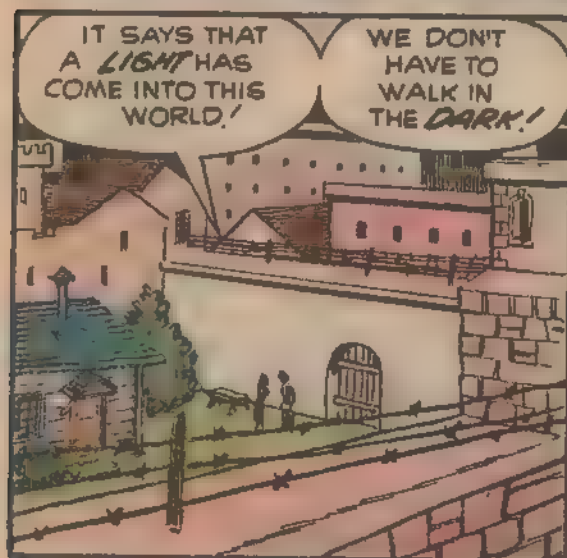
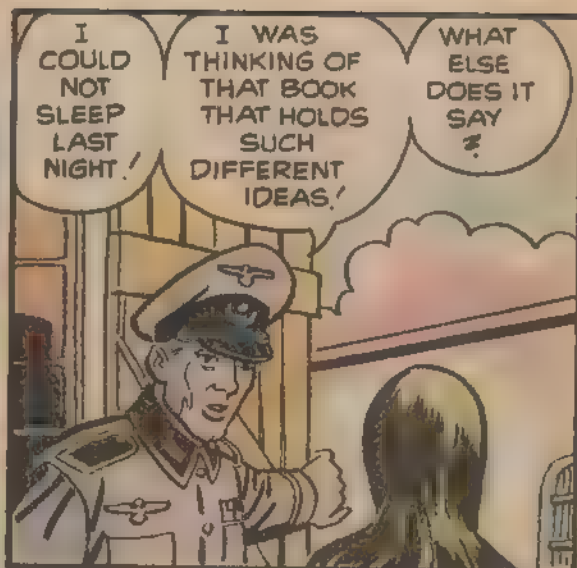
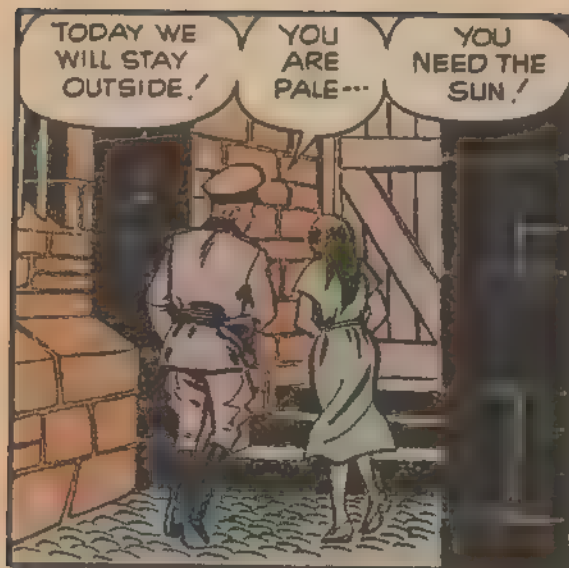
FINALLY, HE TRIED A DIFFERENT
APPROACH---



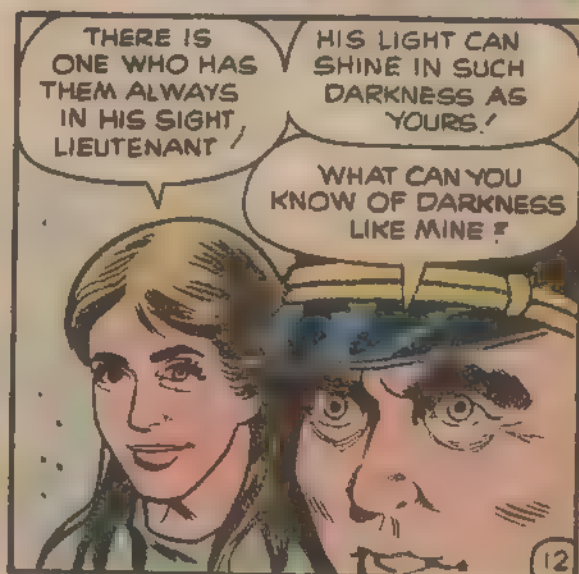
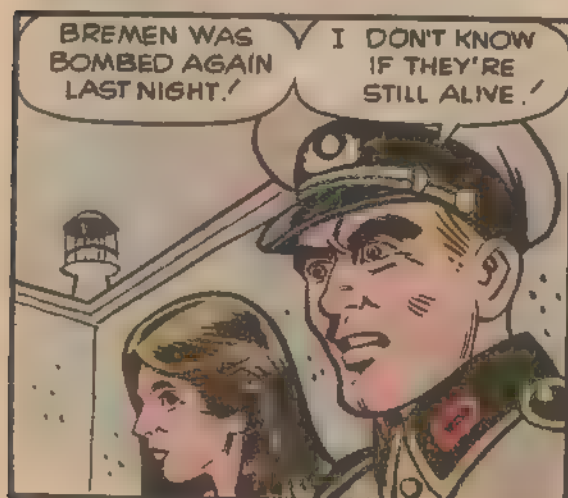


I PLUNGED INTO AN EAGER ACCOUNT OF MY MINISTRY TO THE FEEBLE-MINDED!





ALL AT ONCE HE WAS SPEAKING OF
HIS FAMILY---



AS THE DAYS PASSED , THE
LIEUTENANT DROPPED ALL
PRETENSE OF QUESTIONING
ME ON MY UNDERGROUND
ACTIVITIES .

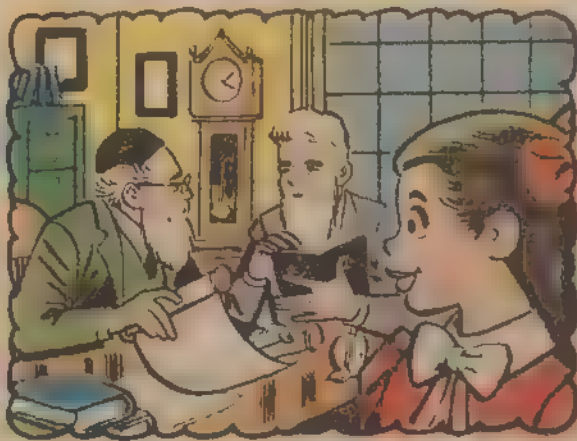
HE EAGERLY
LISTENED TO
STORIES OF MY
CHILDHOOD .

I LOVED THE
WEEKLY BUSINESS
TRIPS TO AMSTERDAM
WITH FATHER .



FATHER WAS ALWAYS EAGER TO
DISCUSS THE SCRIPTURES ON HIS
VISITS TO WHOLESALERS ---

HOW I ENJOYED LISTENING TO
THESE MEN OF FAITH , COMPARING ,
STUDYING , AND REVELLING IN EACH
OTHER'S COMPANY .



HOW CAN
YOU BELIEVE
IN GOD
NOW?

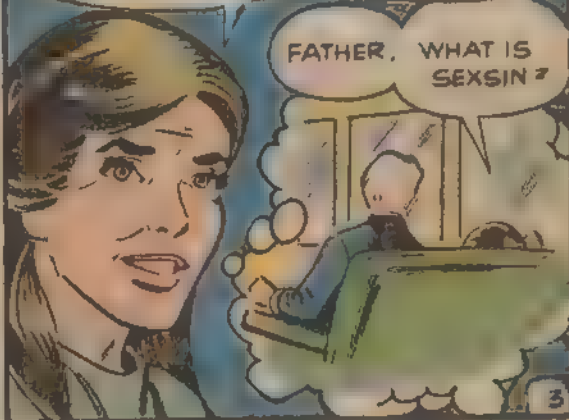
WHAT KIND OF
A GOD WOULD
LET YOUR
FATHER DIE
HERE - IN
PRISON ?



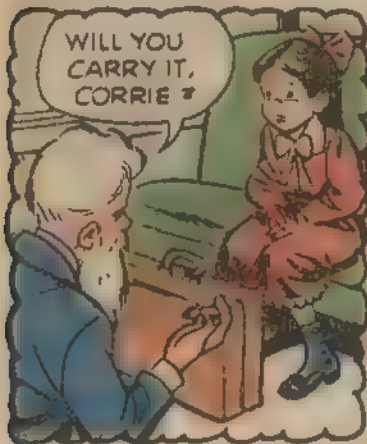
I REMEMBER
ONCE ON THE
TRAIN FROM
AMSTERDAM ---

I ASKED
A QUESTION
BEYOND MY
YEARS ---

FATHER , WHAT IS
SEXSIN ?



FATHER DIDN'T ANSWER ME. / INSTEAD HE PUT HIS TRAVELLING CASE IN FRONT OF ME /



BUT IT'S TOO HEAVY /



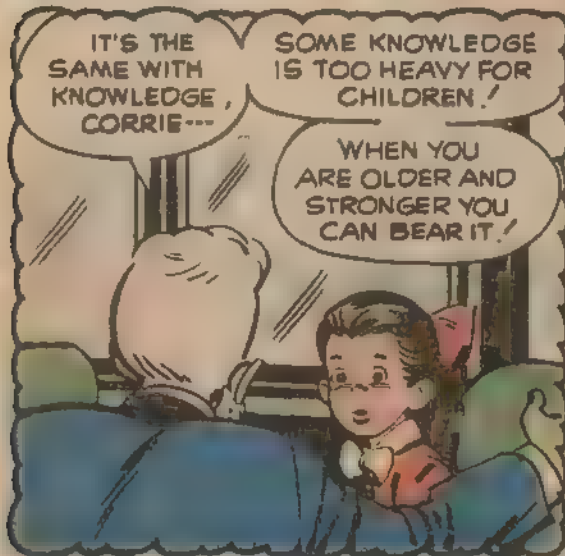
YES, IT WOULD BE A POOR FATHER WHO WOULD ASK HIS CHILD TO CARRY SUCH A LOAD /



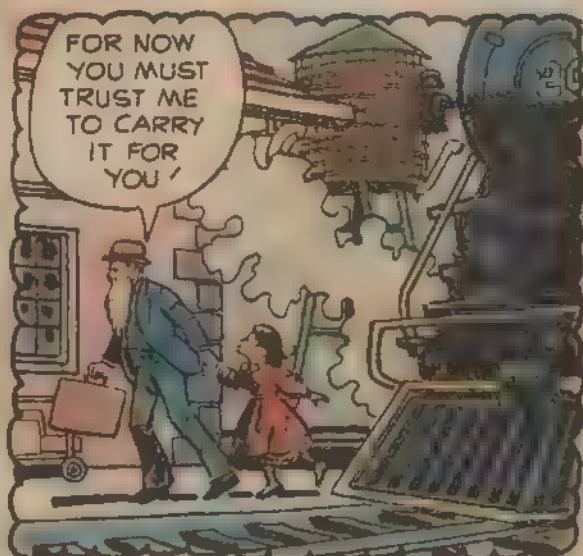
IT'S THE SAME WITH KNOWLEDGE, CORRIE---

SOME KNOWLEDGE IS TOO HEAVY FOR CHILDREN. /

WHEN YOU ARE OLDER AND STRONGER YOU CAN BEAR IT. /



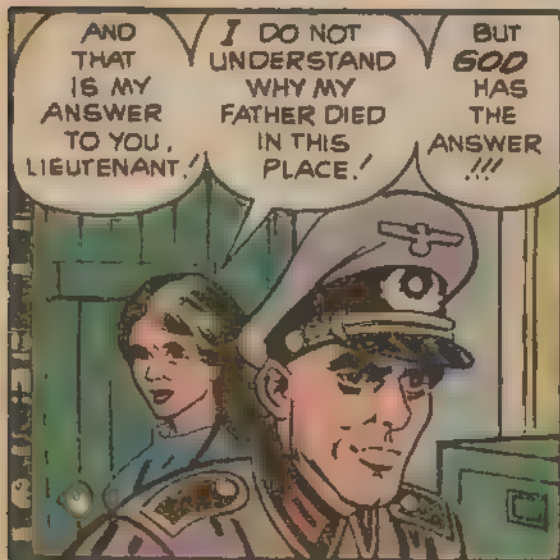
FOR NOW YOU MUST TRUST ME TO CARRY IT FOR YOU /



AND THAT IS MY ANSWER TO YOU, LIEUTENANT. /

I DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHY MY FATHER DIED IN THIS PLACE. /

BUT **GOD** HAS THE ANSWER !!!



MISS TEN BOOM, I WOULD LIKE TO HELP YOU---

THIS IS ALL I CAN DO---





IT IS COMPACT SO
YOU CAN WEAR IT
AROUND YOUR NECK
IN THIS POUCH /

BUT IF IT IS
DISCOVERED, I WILL
DENY GIVING IT TO
YOU /



YOU NEED NOT WORRY,
LIEUTENANT /

I WILL HIDE THIS
BOOK IN MY HEART---

GOD WILL
HIDE IT FROM
OTHERS /



PRAY
FOR ME,
DEAR
LADY---

I AM IN
A PRISON
STRONGER
THAN THIS
ONE /



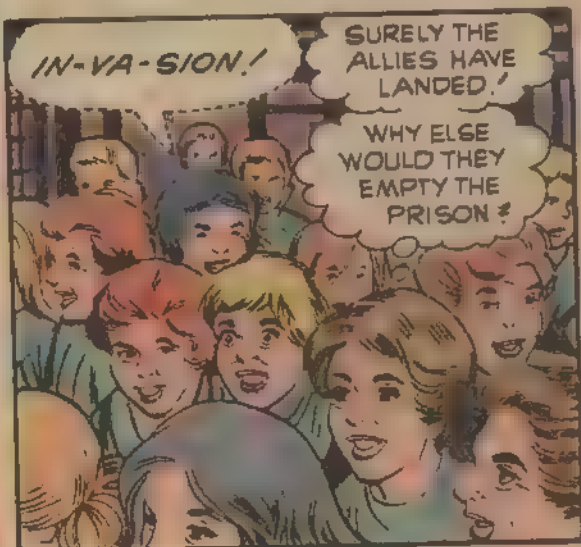
THE NEXT DAY---

ALL
OUT /

NO
TALKING /

FORM
RANKS OF
FIVE /

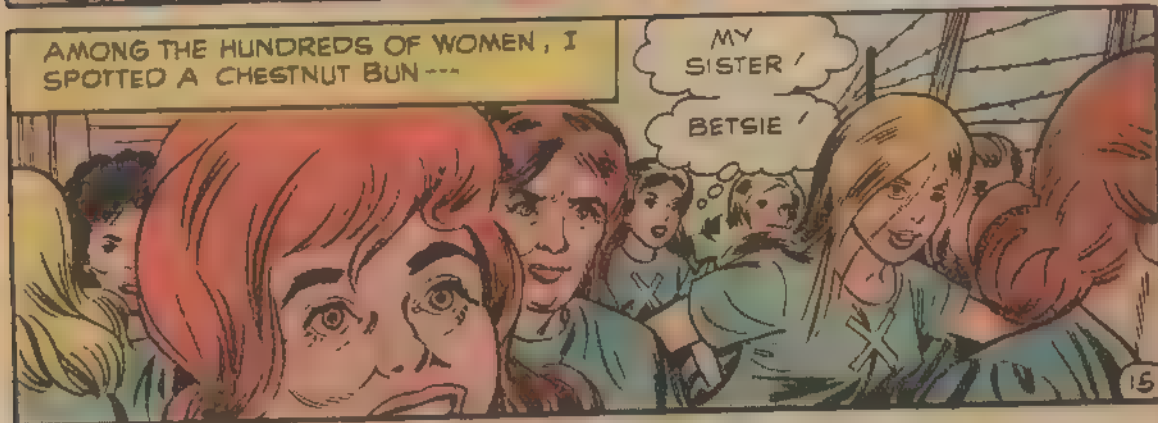
NO ONE DARED TO SPEAK, BUT WE
SILENTLY MOUTHED A WORD THAT SENT
OUR HOPES SOARING /



IN-VA-SION /

SURELY THE
ALLIES HAVE
LANDED /

WHY ELSE
WOULD THEY
EMPTY THE
PRISON ?



AMONG THE HUNDREDS OF WOMEN, I
SPOTTED A CHESTNUT BUN---

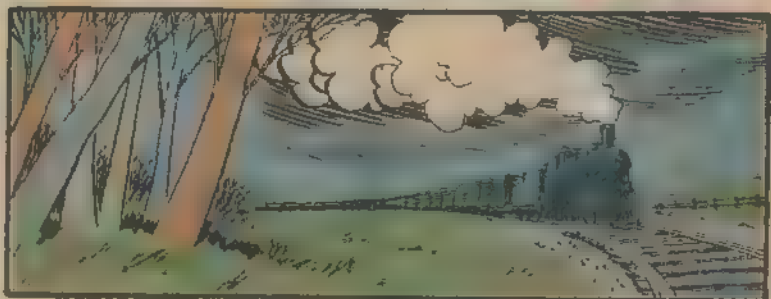
MY
SISTER /

BETSIIE

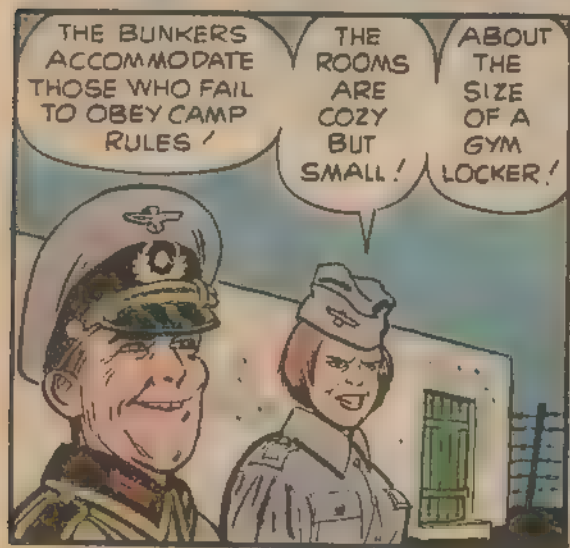
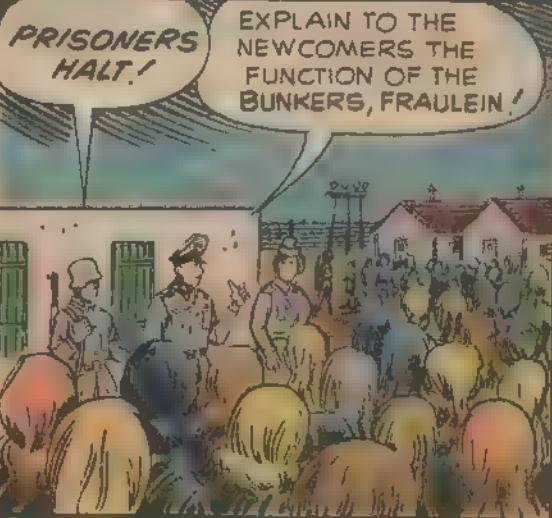
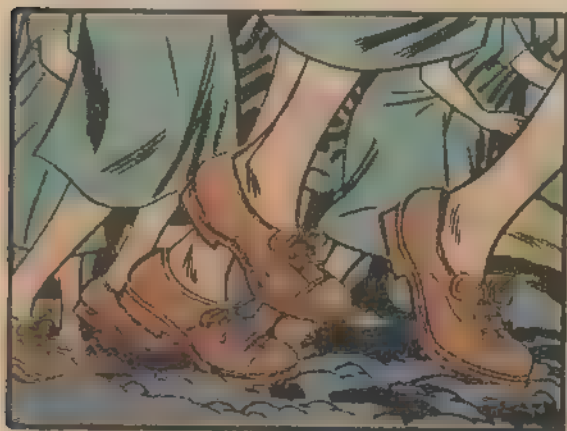
BEFORE WE BOARDED THE TRAIN ,
I WAS ABLE TO REACH BETSIE---



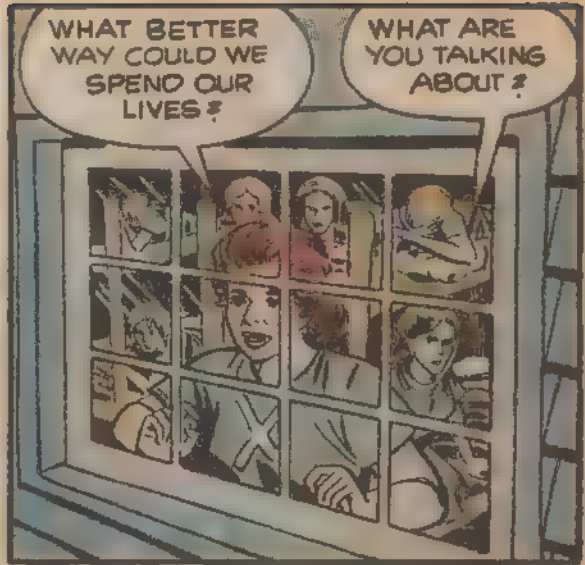
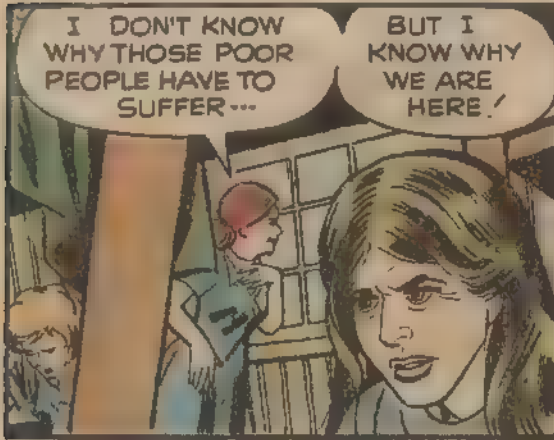
AS THE LOADED TRAIN
CLACKED THROUGH THE
DARK NIGHT TOWARDS
THE UNKNOWN , IT
SEEMED THAT I COULD
BEAR WHATEVER WAS
TO COME WITH BETSIE
BESIDE ME !



WE JERKED TO A STOP IN THE
MIDDLE OF A WOODS , AND THEN
ANOTHER LONG MARCH ---



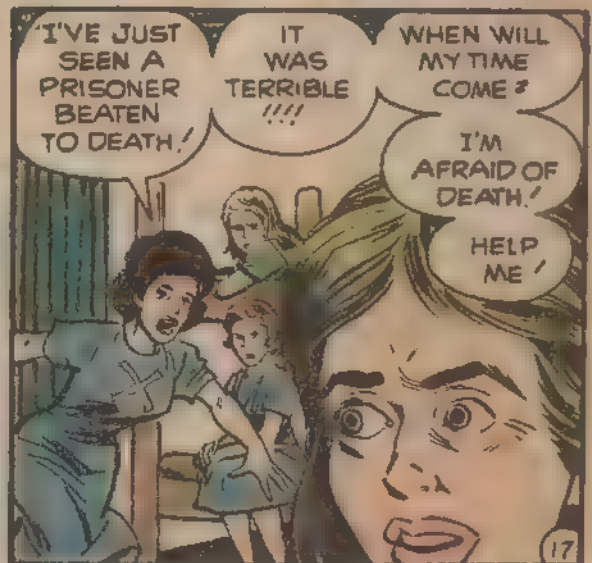
OUR BARRACKS WAS NEXT TO THE PUNISHMENT AREA / WE COULD HEAR THE SOUNDS OF HELL ITSELF !

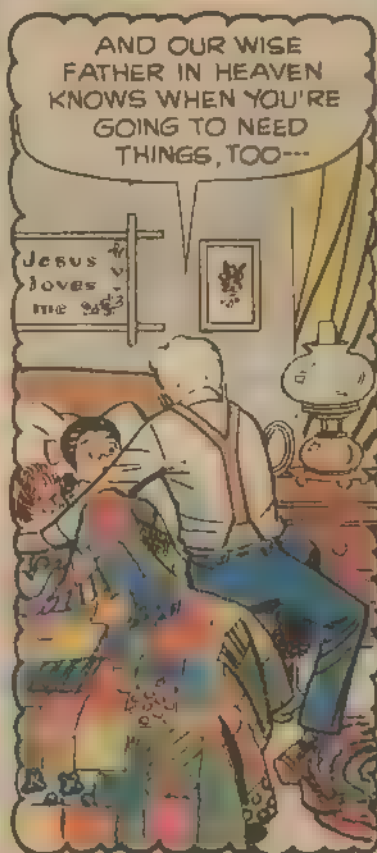
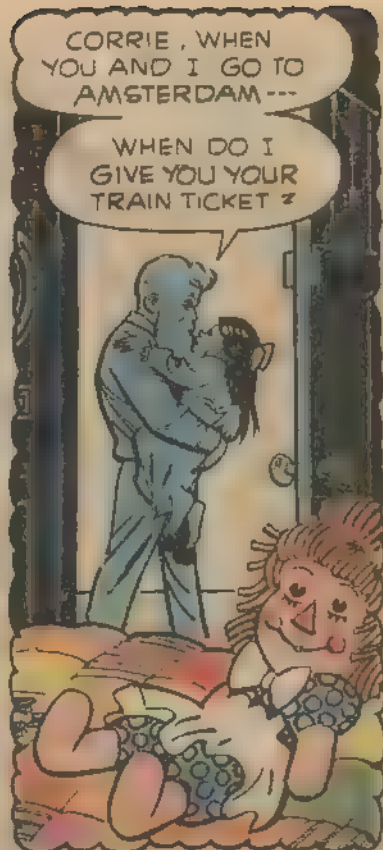


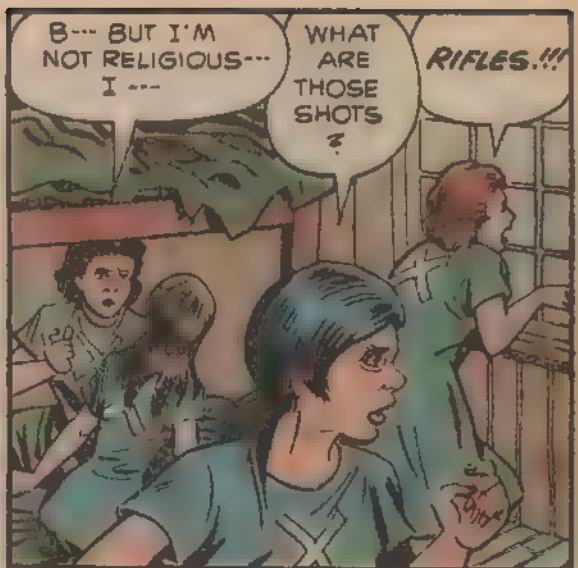
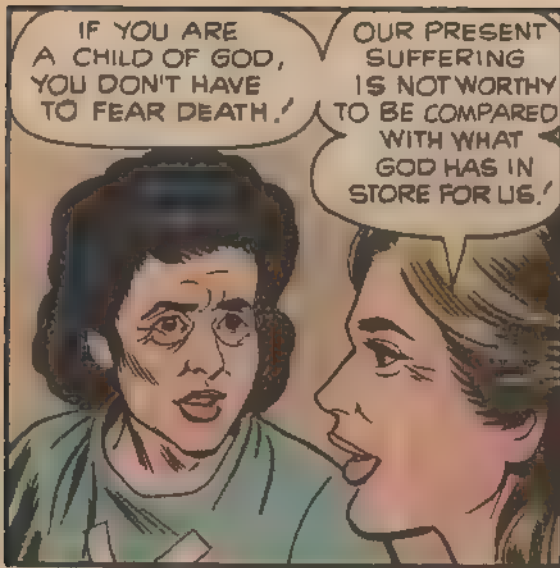
OUR BIBLE BECAME THE CENTER OF AN EVER - WIDENING CIRCLE OF HELP AND HOPE ! IT DESCRIBED THE WAY THINGS WERE - OF HELL AND HEAVEN - OF HOW MEN ACT --- AND HOW GOD ACTS !



WE READ HOW SOLDIERS ARRESTED JESUS AND FLOGGED HIM AND LAUGHED AT HIM --- NOW SUCH HAPPENINGS HAD FACES AND VOICES !







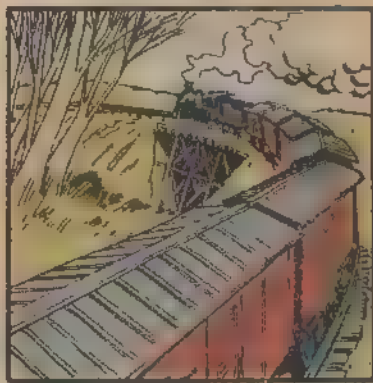


GET
ABOARD
THE
CARS !

80 WOMEN WERE
PACKED INTO CARS
BUILT FOR 30 !



WE WERE LOCKED IN THE
CARS FOR FOUR DAYS !
TRAVELLING FURTHER
AND FURTHER INTO THE
LAND OF OUR FEARS -
GERMANY !



WORSE THAN THE
CRUSH OF BODIES AND
THE FILTH WAS A SINGLE
OBSESSION ---

TWICE WHEN THE TRAIN
STOPPED A PAIL OF
WATER WAS PASSED IN---

BUT WE HAD BECOME
ANIMALS ---



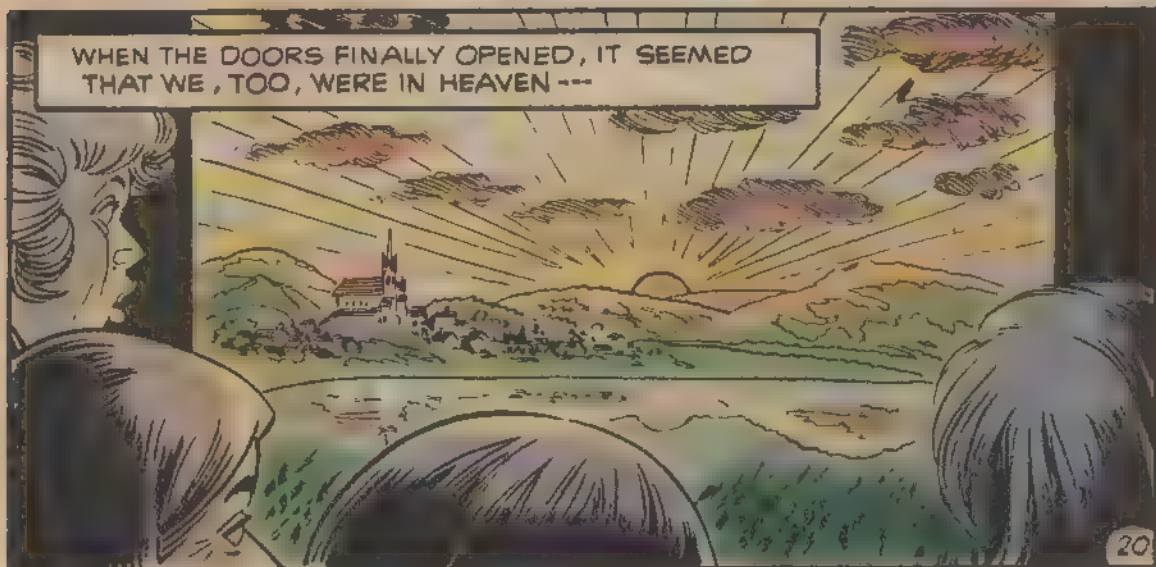
SOMETHING
TO DRINK !



THOSE
NEAR THE
DOOR GOT
IT ALL !

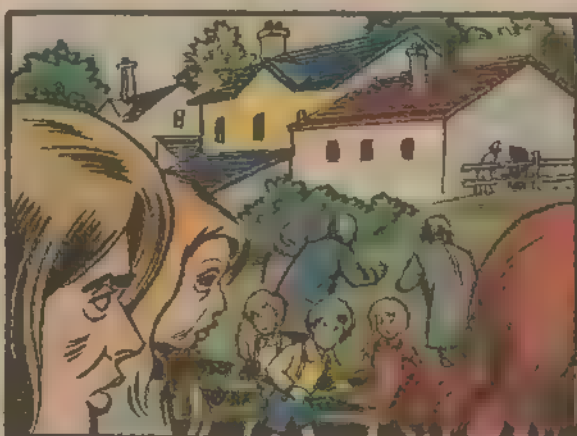
CORRIE ,
I'M GLAD
THAT
FATHER IS IN
HEAVEN
TODAY !

WHEN THE DOORS FINALLY OPENED , IT SEEMED
THAT WE , TOO , WERE IN HEAVEN ---



ONLY A HANDFUL OF SOLDIERS
WERE NEEDED TO GUARD A THOUSAND
WOMEN - WE COULD SCARCELY WALK,
LET ALONE RESIST.

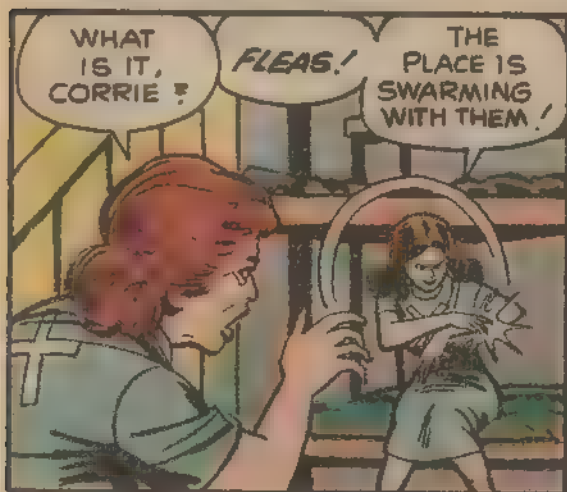
CHILDREN RETURNED MY STARES
WITH WIDE-EYED INTEREST--- BUT
THE ADULTS ALL TURNED THEIR HEADS
AS WE STRUGGLED BY---



AND THEN, FROM THE CREST OF A HILL,
WE SAW WHY THE ADULT EYES COULD NOT
MEET OURS - **RAVENSBRUCK!** THE
DREADED EXTERMINATION CAMP!



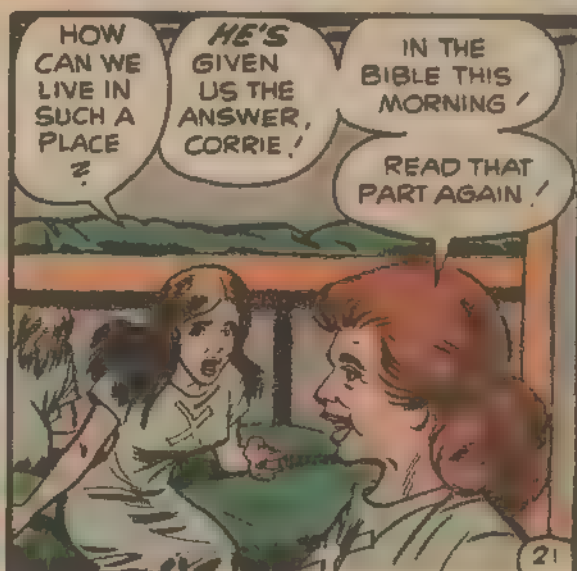
WE WERE ASSIGNED OUR
BARRACKS AND---



WHAT
IS IT,
CORRIE?

FLEAS!

THE
PLACE IS
SWARMING
WITH THEM!

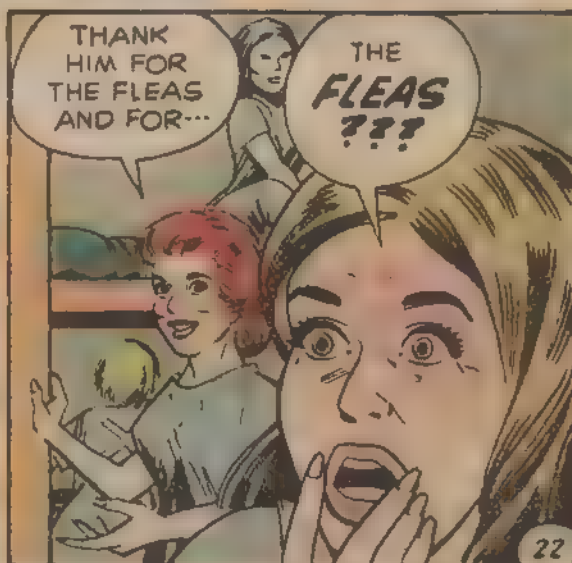
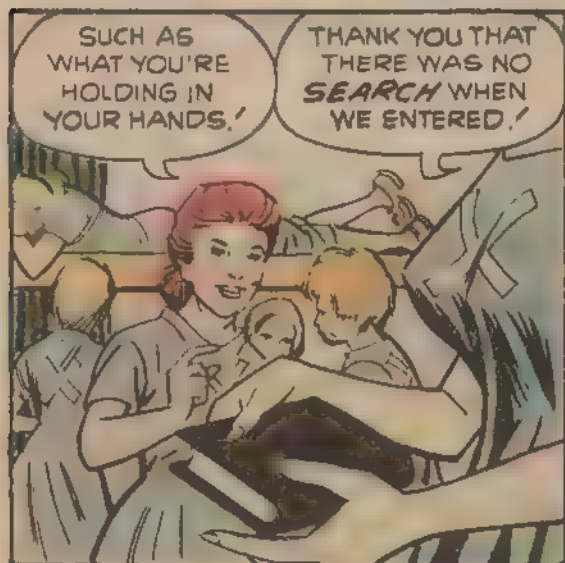
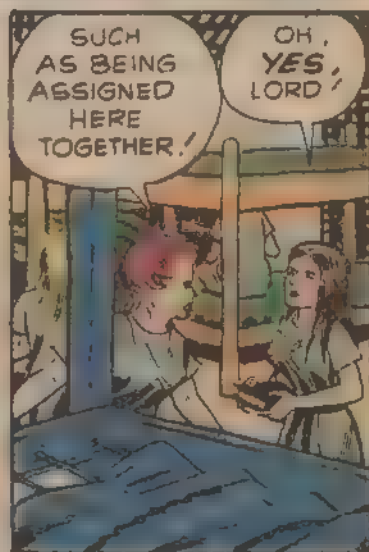
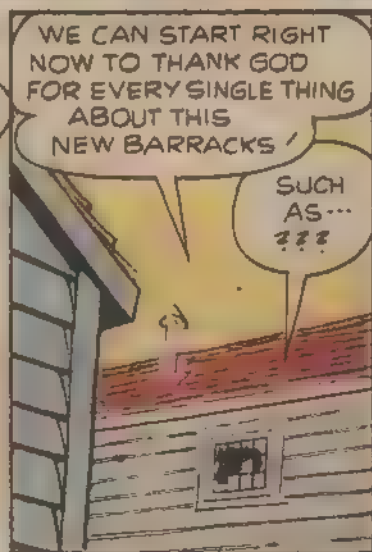
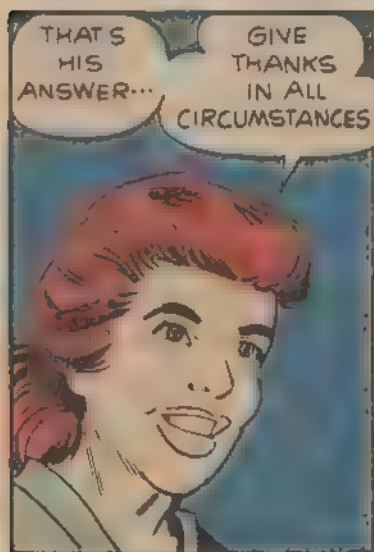
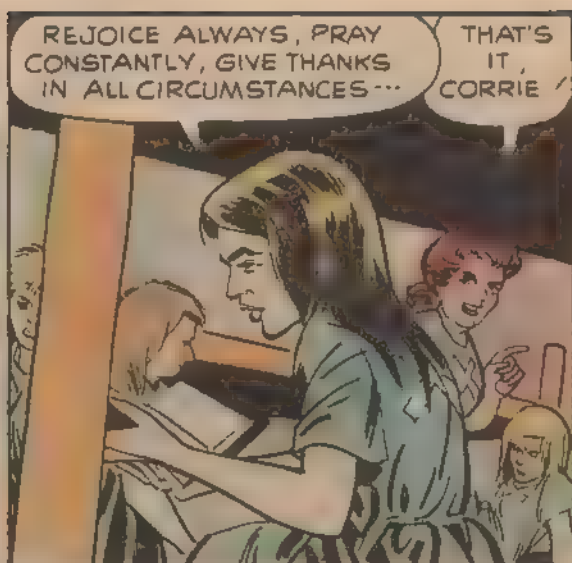
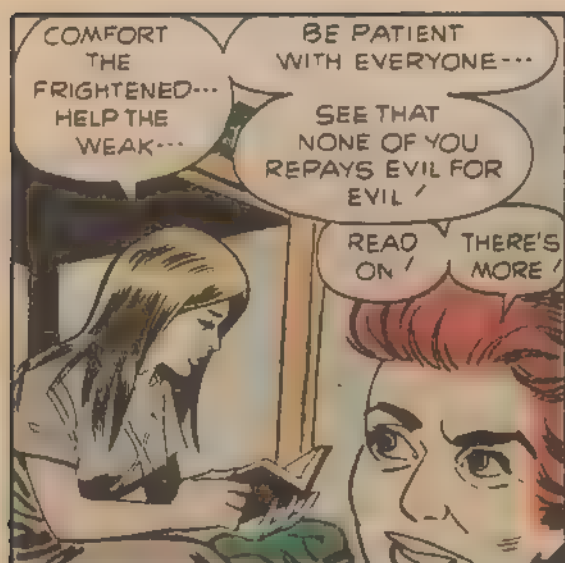


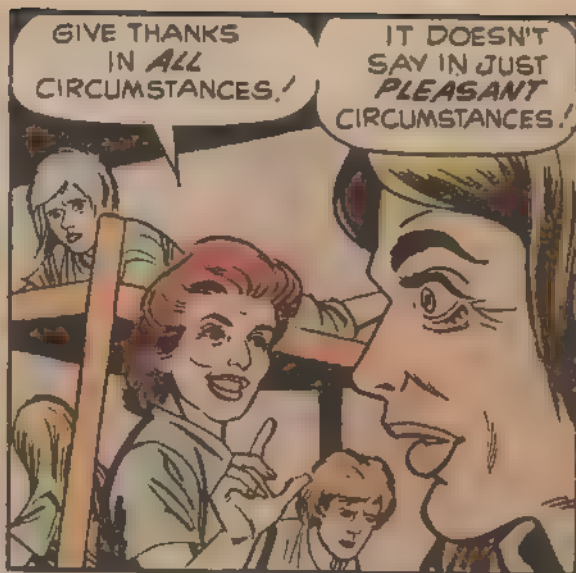
HOW
CAN WE
LIVE IN
SUCH A
PLACE
?

**HE'S
GIVEN
US THE
ANSWER,
CORRIE!**

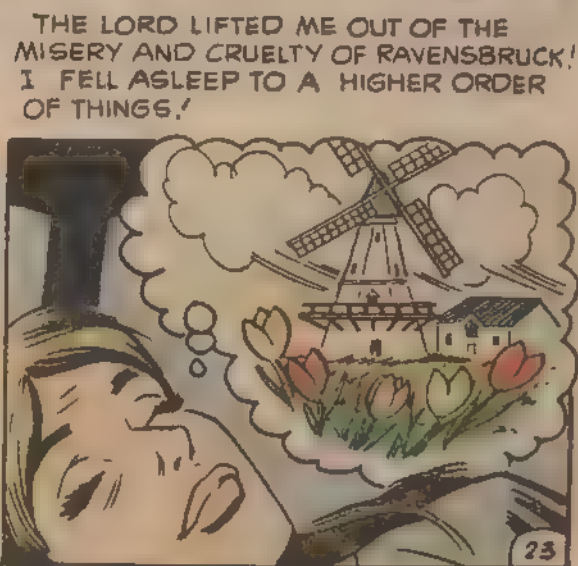
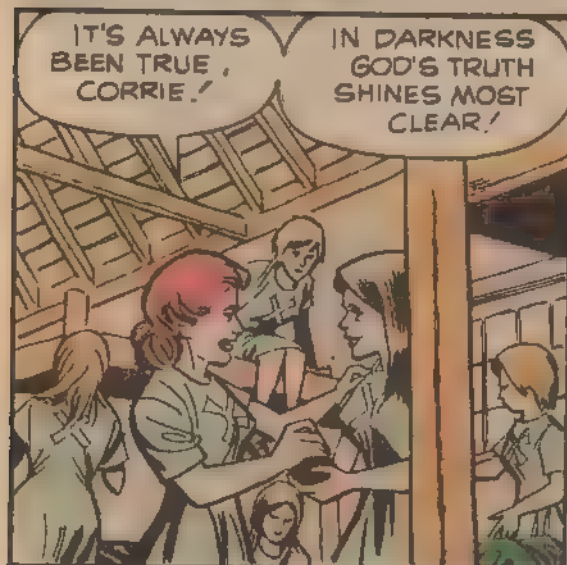
IN THE
BIBLE THIS
MORNING!

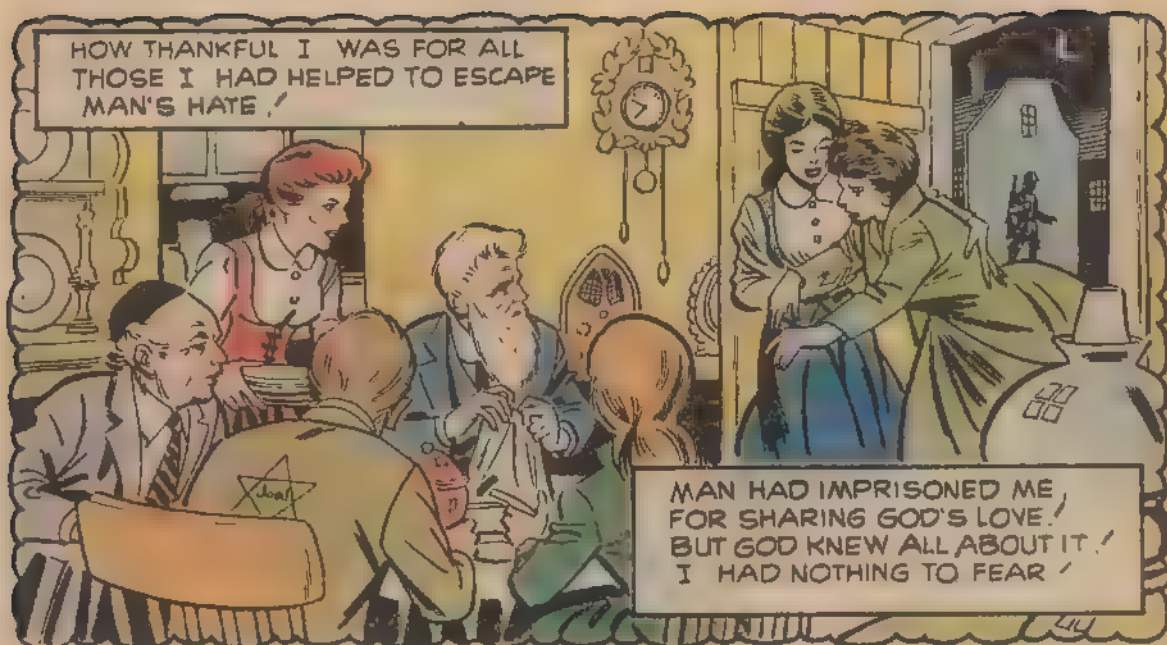
**READ THAT
PART AGAIN!**



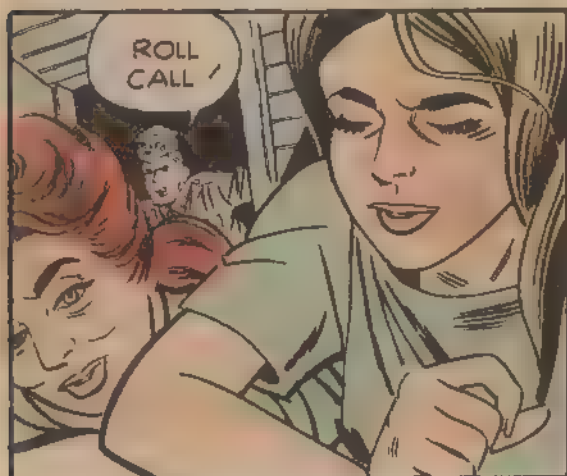


AND SO WE GAVE THANKS FOR FLEAS! BUT THIS TIME I WAS SURE BETSIE WAS *WRONG*!

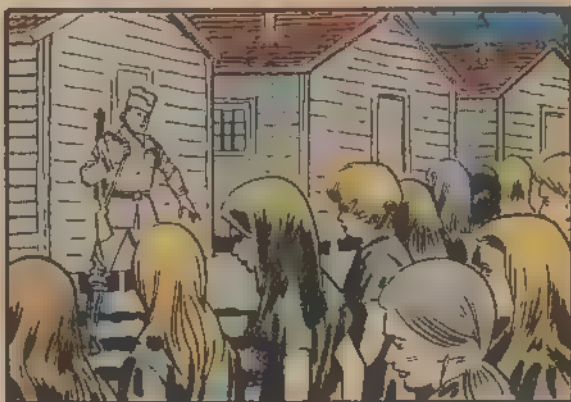




4:30 THE NEXT MORNING /



WE WERE KEPT STANDING FOR HOURS TO TIRE US, TO BREAK OUR SPIRITS AND TO WEAKEN OUR MORALE /

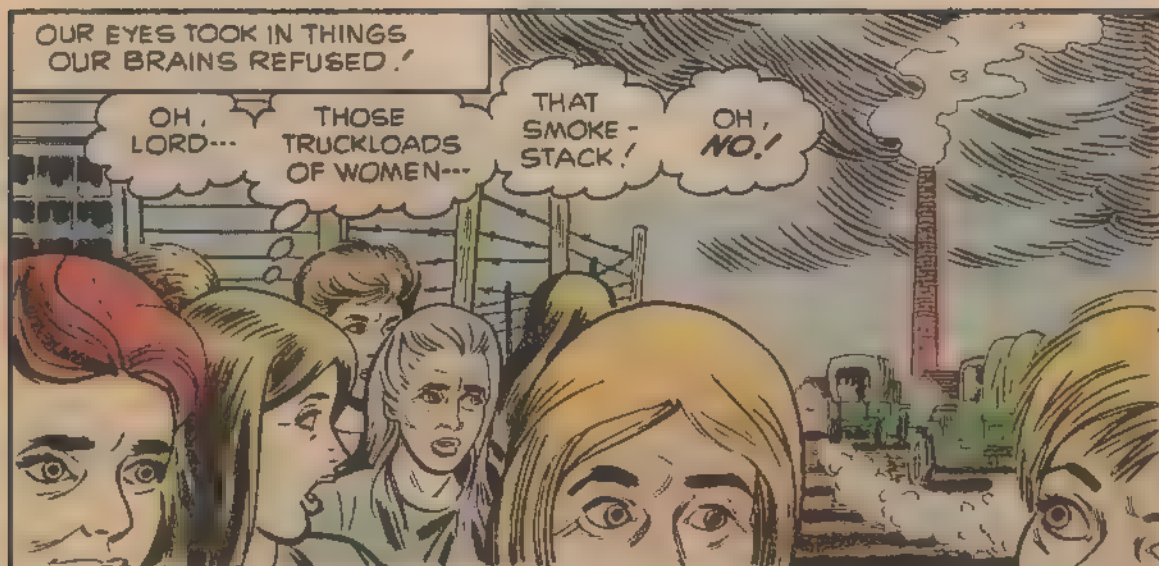


IF WE HAPPENED TO BE STANDING IN A PUDDLE, WE WERE NOT ALLOWED TO MOVE OUT OF IT /

WHIPS AND GUN BUTTS REMINDED US TO OBEY ALL RULES ---

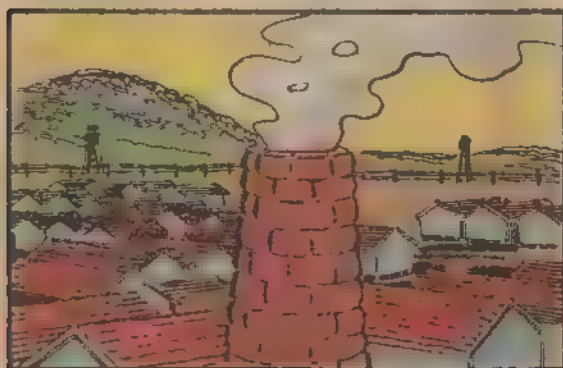


BUT THERE WAS A GREATER TYRANNY---



AND THIS WAS THE GREAT PLOY OF SATAN IN THAT KINGDOM OF HIS - TO DISPLAY SUCH BLATANT EVIL - THAT WE COULD ALMOST BELIEVE THAT OUR OWN SECRET SINS REALLY DIDN'T MATTER.

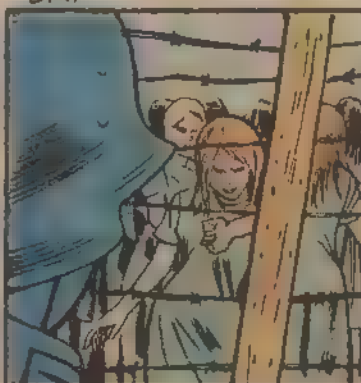
IT WAS EASY IN THIS CAMP TO BE SELFISH AND TO LACK LOVE



BUT IN THE MIDDLE OF ALL THIS, GOD'S SPIRIT WAS TAKING HOLD OF CROWDED LIVES.

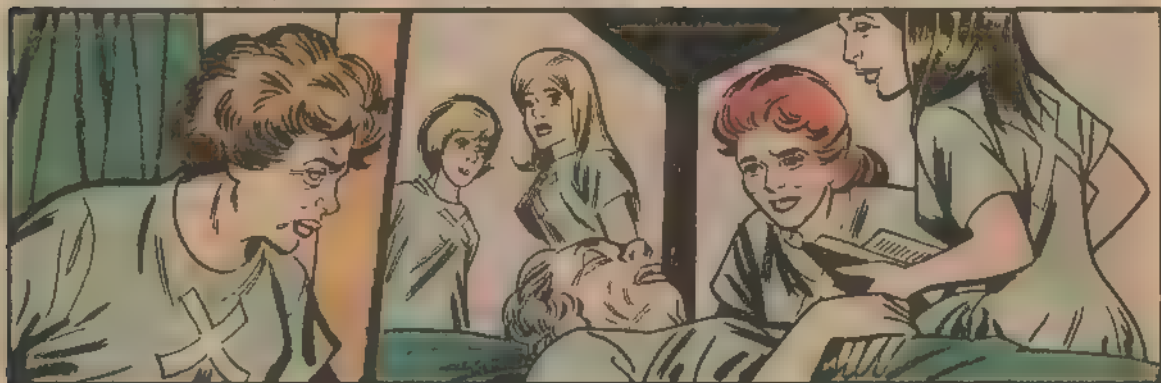
LIFE AT RAVENSBRUCK TOOK PLACE ON TWO SEPARATE LEVELS. THE EXTERNAL LIFE GREW MORE HORRIBLE EACH DAY---

BUT THE OTHER, THE LIFE WE LIVED WITH GOD, GREW BETTER, TRUTH UPON TRUTH, GLORY UPON GLORY.



WHERE THERE HAD BEEN JEALOUSLY,
IMPATIENCE AND ANGER, THERE WAS NOW
UNDERSTANDING, TOLERANCE AND LOVE ---

WE SAT BY DEATHBEDS
THAT BECAME DOORWAYS
TO HEAVEN /



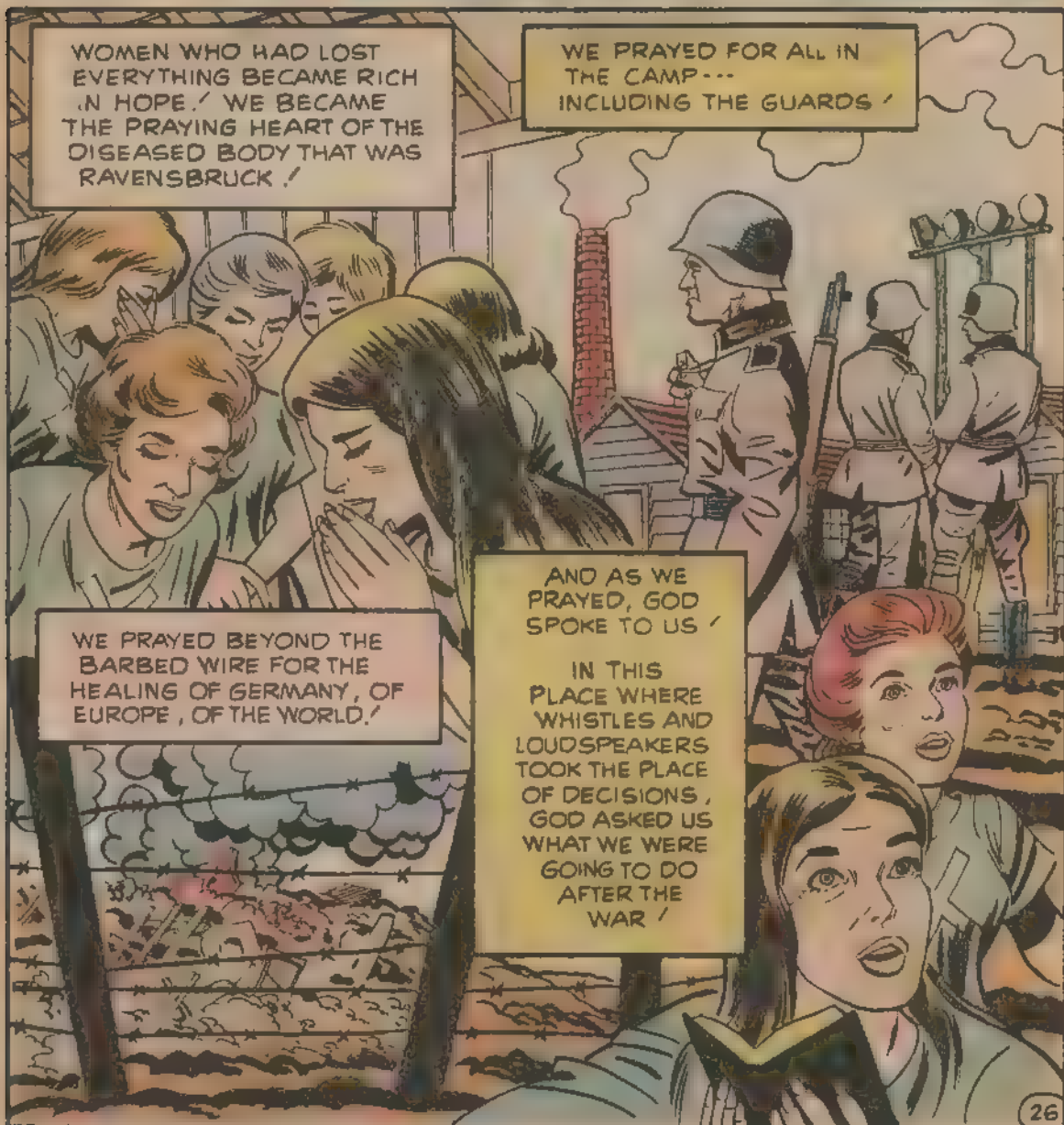
WOMEN WHO HAD LOST
EVERYTHING BECAME RICH
IN HOPE. / WE BECAME
THE PRAYING HEART OF THE
DISEASED BODY THAT WAS
RAVENSBRUCK. /

WE PRAYED FOR ALL IN
THE CAMP ---
INCLUDING THE GUARDS. /

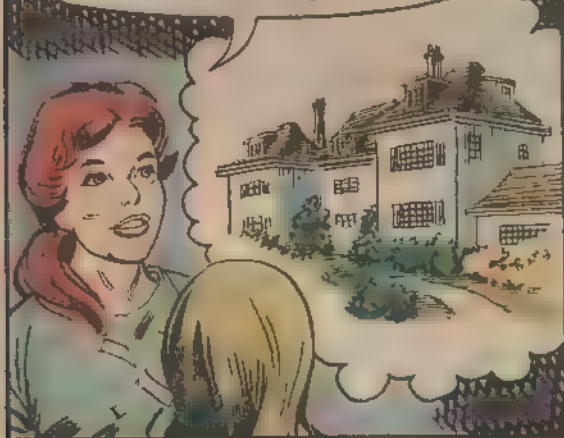
WE PRAYED BEYOND THE
BARBED WIRE FOR THE
HEALING OF GERMANY, OF
EUROPE, OF THE WORLD. /

AND AS WE
PRAYED, GOD
SPOKE TO US. /

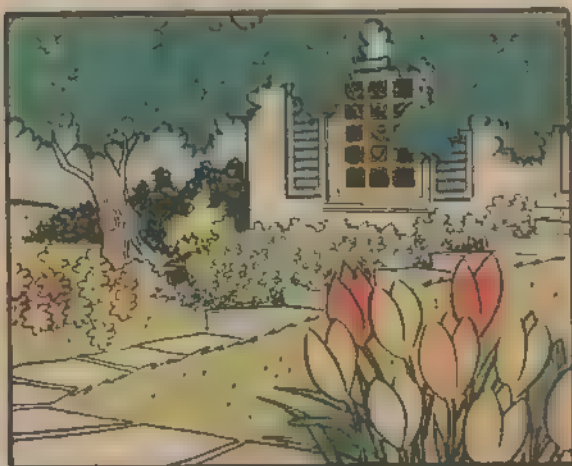
IN THIS
PLACE WHERE
WHISTLES AND
LOUDSPEAKERS
TOOK THE PLACE
OF DECISIONS,
GOD ASKED US
WHAT WE WERE
GOING TO DO
AFTER THE
WAR. /



CORRIE, WE WILL ESTABLISH
A HOME FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE
BEEN DAMAGED BY MAN'S
CRUELTY!



WE'LL HAVE GARDENS ALL AROUND!
IT WILL DO THEM GOOD TO CARE FOR
FLOWERS!



BUT THERE
WERE GROWING
SIGNS THAT
BETSY'S PHYSICAL
STRENGTH COULD
NOT MATCH
HER SPIRIT!



LOAFER!

LAZY
SWINE!

LOOK
WHAT THE
GRAND LADY
IS CARRYING!

SURELY
SHE WILL
OVER-EXERT
HERSELF!



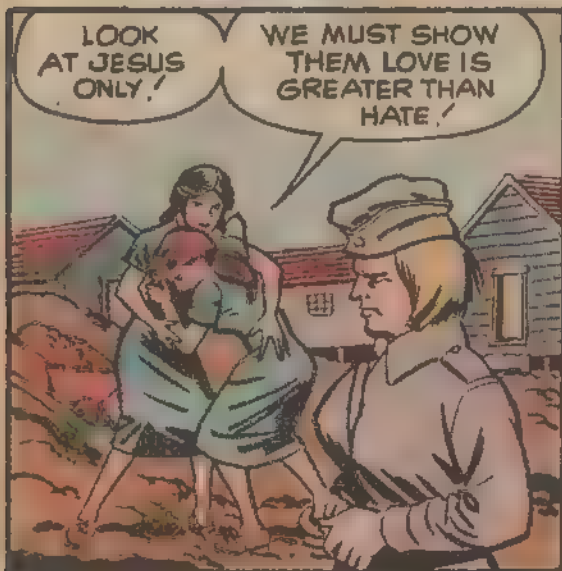
YES, BUT YOU'D
BETTER LET ME
TOTTER ALONG
WITH MY LITTLE
SPOONFUL ...

OR I'LL
HAVE TO STOP
ALTOGETHER!

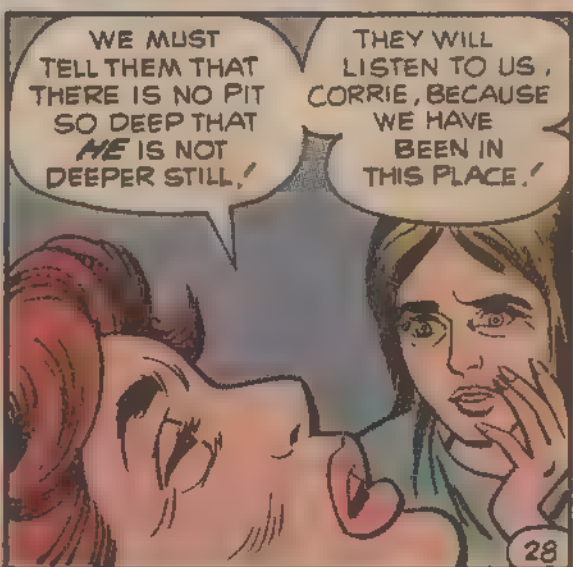
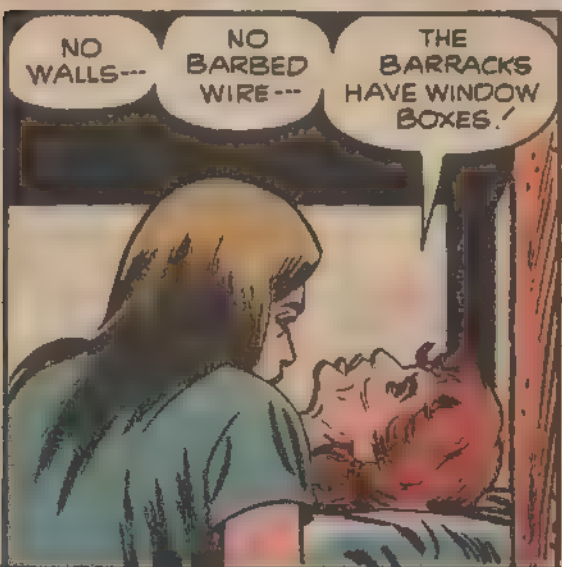
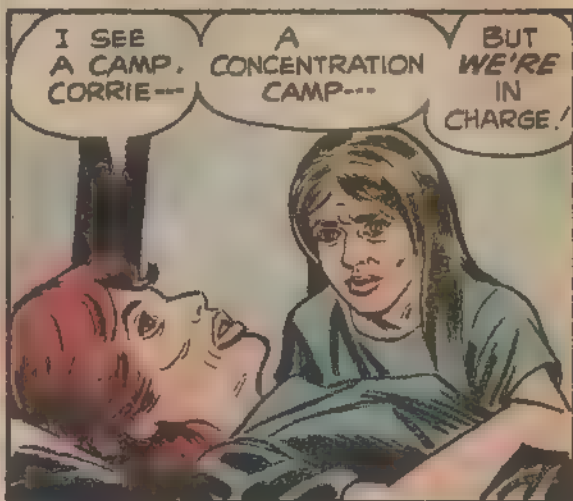


I'LL DECIDE
WHO'S TO STOP!





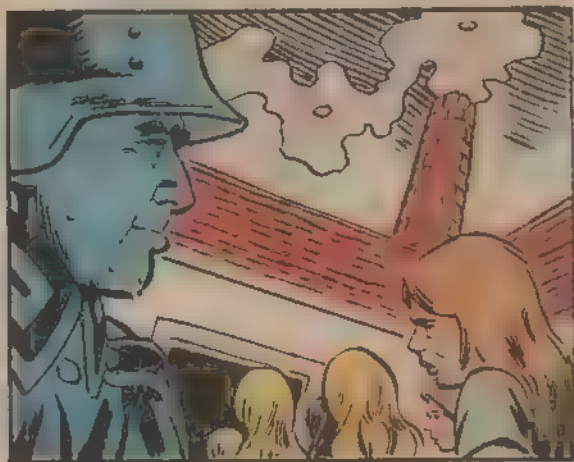
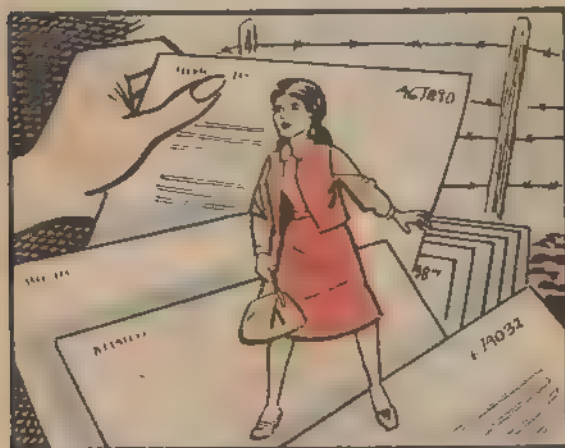
EVEN AS HER HEALTH FAILED,
BETSIIE'S LOVE WAS CONSTANT---





MIRACULOUSLY, I WAS RELEASED FROM THE CAMP THROUGH A CLERICAL ERROR---

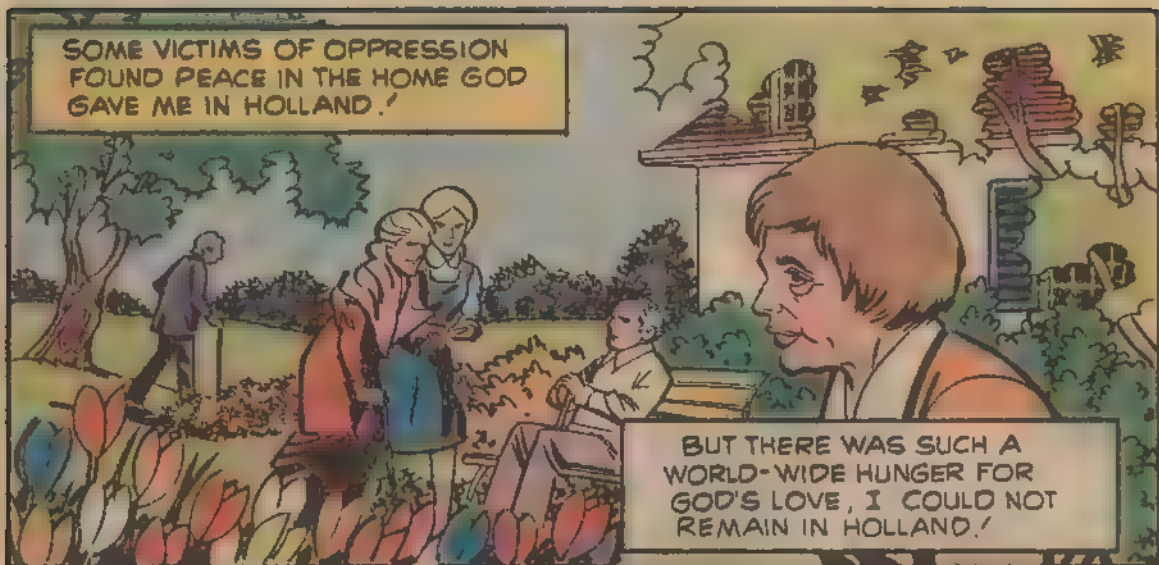
JUST ONE WEEK LATER, ALL WOMEN MY AGE WERE EXTERMINATED!



SOON THE WAR WAS OVER---

BUT VERY FEW HEARTS FOUND PEACE!

SOME VICTIMS OF OPPRESSION
FOUND PEACE IN THE HOME GOD
GAVE ME IN HOLLAND.



BUT THERE WAS SUCH A
WORLD-WIDE HUNGER FOR
GOD'S LOVE, I COULD NOT
REMAIN IN HOLLAND.

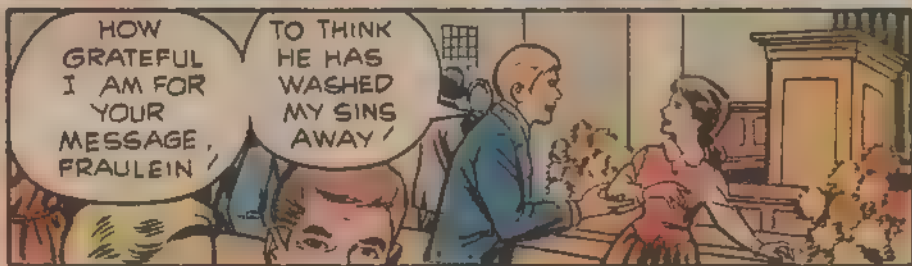
I
TRAVELLED
AROUND
THE GLOBE
SHARING
GOD'S
PROMISES
AND
PROVISIONS.



GOD WANTS
TO BE
INVOLVED...

IN EVERY
AREA OF YOUR
LIFE.

ONE
NIGHT...
AFTER I
SPOKE IN
A CHURCH
IN
GERMANY...

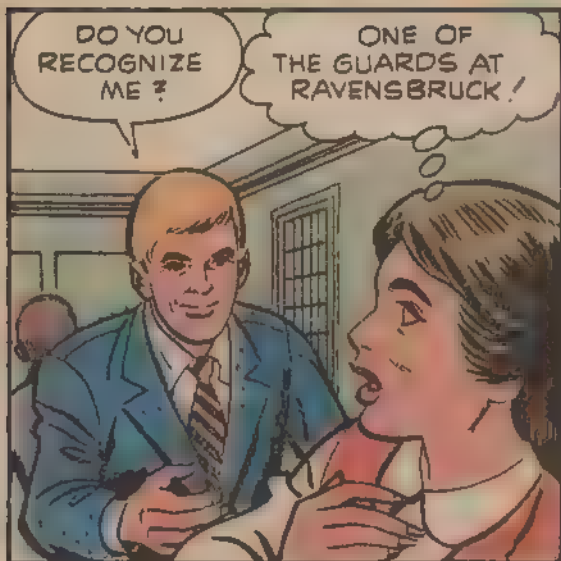


HOW
GRATEFUL
I AM FOR
YOUR
MESSAGE,
FRAULEIN!

TO THINK
HE HAS
WASHED
MY SINS
AWAY!

DO YOU
RECOGNIZE
ME?

ONE OF
THE GUARDS AT
RAVENSBRUCK!



I WHO HAD PREACHED THE NEED
TO FORGIVE, KEPT MY HAND AT
MY SIDE!



AND THEN I SAW MY OWN SIN!
JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR THIS MAN!
WAS I GOING TO ASK FOR MORE?



AS I TOOK HIS HAND, I FELT
A LOVE THAT ALMOST OVER-
WHELMED ME!



FRAULEIN, I'VE
LOCATED A PLACE
HERE IN GERMANY
FOR YOUR WORK!



IT'S JUST BEEN
RELEASED BY THE
GOVERNMENT!



IT WAS A FORMER
CONCENTRATION
CAMP!



WINDOW
BOXES!

WE'LL HAVE
THEM AT EVERY
WINDOW!

AND THE
BARBED WIRE
WILL COME
DOWN!

JUST
AS BETSIE
SAID!



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